

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SECTO 01084 231410Z

53

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 /026 W

----- 124116

O 231334Z JAN 76 ZFF-6

FM USDEL SECRETARY IN BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

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EXDIS

FOR TRATTNER FROM FUNSETH

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SECVISIT: CHICAGO TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT IN MOSCW

REF: TOSEC 010154

PLEASE TELEPHONE JAMES SQUIRES FOLLOWING:

1. NEITHER MR. SONNENFELDT NOR I WERE INFORMED THAT JAMES JACKSON, CHICAGO TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT IN MOSCOW HAD NOT BEEN PERMITTED TO ENTER AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE FOR BACKGROUND BRIEFING, THURSEYAR ENING, JAN. 22. IF WE HAD BEEN INFORMED, WE WOULD HAVE ALLOWED JACKSON TO ATTEND AS WAS THE CASE FOR OTHER AMERICAN RESIDENT CORRESPONDENTS AT WEDNESDAY EVENING JAN. 21 BACKGROUND BRIEFING AT INTOURIST. (HOWEVER, JACKSON WAS NOT AT INTOURIST PRESS CENTER WHEN THAT BRIEFING BEGAN).

2. ON BOTH OCCASIONS, THE TWO BACKGROUND BRIEFINGS WERE HELD ON VERY SHORT NOTICE (10-15 MINUTES). ACCOMPANYING PRESS WAS CONTACTED AT HOTEL. FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS WERE NOT INCLUDED (AFP, ANSA, DPA, ETC.).

3. AT OTHER EVENTS WER OVERCAME INITIAL SOVIET  
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RELUCTANCE TO EXPAND NUMBER OF AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS

INVITED, AS FOLLOWS.

A. OPENING SESSION WITH BREZHNEV - SOVIET STATED THEY WOULD ALLOW A TOTAL OF 8 AMERICANS TO ATTEND. AFTER MUCH NEGOTIATING THIS WAS EXPANDED. JACKSON ATTENDED BUT SIX NEWSMEN ACCOMPANYING SECRETARY KISSINGER WERE EXCLUDED.

B. GROMYKO LUNCHEON-- INITIALLY RESTRICTED TO 8 BUT WE PERSUADED SOVIETS TO ALLOW ALL AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS, ACCOMPANYING AND RESIDENT, TO ATTEND OPENING. WE DO NOT KNOW IF JACKSON CAME.

C. OPENING OF FOURTH AND FINAL SESSION -- SOVIETS STATED IT WOULD BE RESTRICTED TO 15 AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS. WE PERSUADED SOVIETS TO ALLOW ALL TO ATTEND. JACKSON WAS PERSONALLY INFORMED BUT DECLINED.

4. IN ADDITION, ALL AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS -- ACCOMPANYING AND RESIDENT -- WERE FREE TO COVER OPENING OF SECRETARY'S LUNCH FOR GROMYKO AT AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE. JACKSON WAS NOT SEEN.

5. PLEASE EXPLAIN TO MAR. SQUIRES THERE IS AN UNRESOLVED PROBLEM ABOUT BACKGROUND BRIEFINGS ABROAD. WITH 24 AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS PRESENTLY RESIDENT IN MOSCOW, IT DOES PRESENT A QUESTION FOR US WHEN WE TRY TO ORGANIZE A BACKGROUNDER ON VERY SHORT NOTICE. IT HAS BEEN OUR PRACTICE TO CONTACT THE ACCOMPANYING PRESS--WHO ARE GENERALLY IN SAME HOTEL WITH US -- AND THEN INCLUDE ANY OTHER AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS WHO HAPPEN TO BE AROUND.

6. SONNENFELDT SPOKE PERSONALLY TO JACKSON AND TOLD HIM HE HAD NOT BEEN AWARE OF HIS PRESENCE AT PREMISES WHERE BACKGROUNDER WAS HELD AND EXCLUSION COULD NOT POSSIBLY HAVE OCCURRED AT SONNENFELDT'S INITIATIVE, MUCH LESS BY HIM PERSONALLY. SONNENFELDT ASSURED HIM THAT IF HE HAD BEEN AWARE OF JACKSON'S PRESENCE HE WOULD HAVE BEEN INCLUDED. JACKSON EXPRESSED APPRECIATION BUT ADDED THAT HE HAD DECIDED TO BREAK BACKGROUND RULES IN HIS OWN STORY SINCE HE WAS NOT PRESENT. HE SAID ON BASIS OF DEBRIEFING BY ONE OF THOSE PRESENT.

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HE WROTE PIECE QUOTING SONNENFELDT BY NAME. SONNENFELDT SAID THIS WAS MOST UNFORTUNATE AND UNWARRANTED VIOLATION OF RULES, WHATEVER JACKSON'S STATE OF EMOTION OVER EXCLUSION. YOU SHOULD POINT OUT TO BUREAU CHIEF THAT VIOLATION OF BACKGROUND RULES IS NEVER JUSTIFIED AND WE REGRET JACKSON'S ACTION THOUGH SONNENFELDT WISHES ALSO TO EXTEND TO SAUIRE APOLOGY BE ALREADY EXPRESSED DIRECTLY TO

JACKSON FOR UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT THURSDAY NIGHT.  
KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SECTO, JOURNALISTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**TAGS:** SOPN, OVIP, US, UR, CHICAGO TRIBUNE, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (JACKSON, JAMES)  
**To:** STATE  
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